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RCE/1700
PatentAttorney Docket No. 81448
Customer No. 23685

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Inventor: Robert D. Gibson et al.

Serial No: 09/454,761

Filed: December 6, 1999

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING BONED PORK PRODUCTS

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for the above-identified patent application are the following:

An Amendment
A Request for Continued Examination Transmittal
A check for \$385
A postcard

The item(s) checked below are appropriate:

1. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for a () month extension of time to respond to
2. Please charge any fees or costs not accounted for to Deposit Account No. 11-1755.
3. Applicant is a small entity.

Date: October 9, 2003

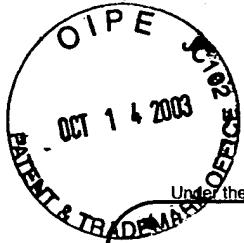

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Edward M. Kriegsman

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**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/454,761
<i>Filing Date</i>	December 6, 1999
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Robert D. Gibson
<i>Art Unit</i>	1761
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Drew E. Becker
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	81448

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____

ii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply

ii. Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

a. Deposit Account No. _____

i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$ 385 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Edward M. Kriegsman	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	133,529
Signature	<i>Edward M. Kriegsman</i>	Date	October 9, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Edward M. Kriegsman	Date	October 9, 2003
Signature	<i>Edward M. Kriegsman</i>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 81448
Customer Number 23685

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
ROBERT D. GIBSON ET AL.)
Serial No.: 09/454,761) Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed: December 6, 1999) Examiner: Drew E. Becker
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS) Confirmation Number: 4209
FOR PREPARING BONED PORK)
PRODUCTS)

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the final Office Action dated August 25, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below.

There are no **Amendments to the Specification** in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

There are no **Amendments to the Drawings** in this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

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